



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

February 16, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document # 46260

Mr. Jon A. Clark, Executive Director
Butte County Association of Governments
965 Fir Street
Chico, CA 95928

Dear Mr. Clark:

SUBJECT: Conformity Determination for BCAG's 2004 Regional Transportation Plan and BCAG's 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 3.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the conformity determination for both the Butte County Association of Governments' (BCAG) 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 3. A joint FTA/FHWA air quality conformity determination for the RTP and FTIP is required by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) *Transportation Conformity Rule*, 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, and the FHWA/FTA *Metropolitan Planning Rule*, 23 CFR 450.

BCAG adopted the 2004 RTP and made the corresponding conformity determination on December 16, 2004. BCAG adopted Amendment No. 3 to the 2004 FTIP on January 27, 2005. The conformity analysis submitted to FHWA/FTA by BCAG for both documents indicates that all air quality conformity requirements have been met. Based on our review, we find that the 2004 RTP and Amendment No. 3 to the 2004 FTIP conform to the applicable state implementation plan in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. In accordance with the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. Additionally, this approval was made after consultation with the EPA, Region 9 office, pursuant to the *Transportation Conformity Rule*.

In accordance with the above MOU, the FHWA's single signature constitutes FHWA and FTA's joint air quality conformity determination for BCAG's 2004 RTP and Amendment No. 3 to the 2004 FTIP. If you have any questions pertaining to this conformity finding, please contact Steve Luxenberg, with the FHWA, at (916) 498-5066.

Sincerely,

/s/ **K. Sue Kiser**

For
Gene K. Fong
FHWA – California Division
Division Administrator

cc: (e-mail)

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cc:

BCAG RTP Folder

BCAG FTIP Binder

SLuxenberg/jf